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Irrigation sources in Chidambaram taluk.

* 1739 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that in Chidambaram taluk, South Arcot district, the irrigation sources are broadly mentioned as from a certain main channel and the special sources of irrigation either through a direct opening in a particular branch channel, or after raising the level of the water by damming across the same, are not specified;

(b) whether the Government are aware that such damming is mostly done either under authority or through custom;

(c) whether the Department of Public Works maintains any register of authorized or recognized dams;

(d) whether a copy of any such register will be granted if applied for, and by whom; and

(e) whether several channels drain some lands at their source and irrigate some lands lower down and vice versa?

A.—(a) The details concerning Government irrigation works given in the descriptive memoir of each village fall under the following heads:—

Name of work.	Source of supply.	Surplus flows to.	Classification assigned to work.	Number of wells in the ayacut.	Area registered as wet.		Total resettlement demand.	
					Single crop.	Double crop.	Single crop.	Double crop.

(b) The Government do not know whether the facts are as stated by the hon. Member.

(c) & (d) No.

(e) The fact may be as stated by the hon. Member. The Government do not know.

Inams

Inam lands restored to Catholic churches in South Kanara.

* 1740 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Catholic churches in South Kanara destroyed by Tippu Sultan had been granted inam lands by Bednore or Ikkri princes and were deprived thereof on their destruction;

(b) whether on the rebuilding of churches under British regime, their original inam lands were restored to them and, if so, to what extent;

(c) whether any, and, if so, what recommendations were made by Mr. Harris and other Collectors as to the restoration of such lands and subject to what conditions;

(d) what action was taken as to the inam lands of the churches at Madankan near Bantval, Mangalore taluk;

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(e) what the area and assessment were of the original inam lands of those restored to that church;

(f) what modifications in regard to area and assessment have those lands undergone; and

(g) what orders the Collectors and the Revenue Board have passed as to the area, assessment and conditions of use of the site of the church and the contiguous lands required for processions and other religious functions?

A.—(*a*) to (*g*) The information desired by the hon. Member is not available in any of the ordinary books of reference. Search is being made in the Government Record Office and the records of the Board of Revenue and the result will be stated if the hon. Member will repeat his question later on.

Land Revenue

Disabilities of Catholics as to lands purchased for Churches in South Kanara.

*1741 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received a representation from the Secretary of the South Kanara Indian Christian Civic League submitting a resolution recorded by its Committee to represent to Government, the disabilities of Catholics as to lands purchased for churches with a memorandum as to the canon and civil laws on the subject; and

(b) what action Government have taken in the matter?

A.—(*a*) The Government have received a representation on the subject on the 15th February last, but no copy of the resolution recorded by the Committee of the League has been received.

(*b*) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Search fees for copies of public documents applied for by interested parties.

*1742 *Q.*—Mr. J. KUPPUSWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent judgment of the Madras High Court reported in LIV, M.L.J., 229 regarding *Raja Sahib of Vijianagaram* v. *the Sub-Collector of Berhampur*, declaring that no search fees should be charged for copies of public documents applied for by interested parties in addition to the supply of copy stamp papers therefor;

(b) why search fees are even now demanded by the Revenue and Registration departments in such cases;

(c) whether the judgment of the High Court has been communicated to all heads of departments for information and guidance;

(d) whether the Government have not yet revised their rules in the Board's Standing Orders, Registration and other departmental manuals relating to the payment of search fees with reference to the judgment of the High Court above referred to; and

(e) why even when the party gives in his application for copies sufficient details relating to the number, year and substance of the document a search fee should be demanded by the Revenue and the Registration departments?